



Haiti

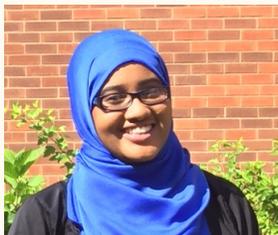
Global Deaf Connection
& Haiti Deaf Academy



Hannah Bohn,
MDP



Jennifer Compton,
MDP



Amal Warsame,
MDP

THE CLIENTS

Global Deaf Connection

Global Deaf Connection (GDC) is an international Deaf education, non-governmental organization that is increasing social, economic and educational opportunities for Deaf people in the world's poorest nations. Based on the premise that education leads to opportunity, GDC was created to improve access to education and employment. This is accomplished through providing the Deaf community with relevant academic and vocational instruction via qualified Deaf and hearing teachers.



Haiti Deaf Academy

Haiti Deaf Academy strives to offer self-reliance by providing language, academic, vocational, physical, spiritual, and economic opportunities for deaf & hard of hearing children, adults and families.

THE PROJECT

Haitian Sign Language - Dictionary And Trainings

Seeking to expand access to communication and public services, Haiti Deaf Academy has undertaken a project to document Haitian Sign Language and professionalize interpretation. By engaging with community partners, the project has three objectives: document currently used sign language for publication of a dictionary, establish a nationally approved interpreter certification program, and facilitate workshops for Deaf educators and public service providers on the rights of Deaf individuals. Students from the University of Minnesota served as an external evaluation team for this project, developing a process evaluation plan and project management tools.

Caribbean	Human Rights	Program Evaluation
Haiti	Education	Program Development

THE TEAM

Hannah Bohn, MDP 2018

Hannah is from Conifer, Colorado. She graduated from Augustana College in 2014 with a BA in Anthropology and French. Hannah is interested in community driven development, volunteer models for development, and local food systems.

Jennifer Compton, MDP 2018

Jennifer is from Ames, Iowa. She graduated from Lawrence University in 2016 with a BS in Government with a minor in Religious Studies. Jennifer monitoring and evaluation, immigration and forced migration, and sustainable development.

Amal Warsame, MDP 2018

Amal is from Somalia. She graduated from Augsburg College in 2016 with a BA in Social Psychology and Political Science. Amal is interested in human rights, women and children, and refugee and immigration policies.

MDP Faculty Advisor

Randi Nelson | nelso326@umn.edu

Global Deaf Connection

Joel Runnels
mayaleadersbelize@gmail.com

Haiti Deaf Academy

Kathryn Montoya
kathryn@haitideafacademy.com

HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
612.624.3800 | HHH.UMN.EDU

**INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER FOR THE
STUDY OF GLOBAL CHANGE**
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
612.624.0832 | ICGC.UMN.EDU

RESULTS AND REFLECTIONS

The team helped to identify discrepancies between the project description and budget. Outlining these differences allowed the HDA/GDC to better understand the project's objectives and activities. Additionally, by assessing different stakeholders' interests in the project the student team facilitated greater interaction between important actors whose buy-in was necessary for successful implementation. To aid in program management, the students developed a document library with process evaluation plans, logic models, stakeholder maps and analyses, and other documents for the HDA to use as a toolkit throughout the project.

The field experience provided experience developing evaluation plans and logic models as well as engaging the complexity of development in the real world. Although the project changed substantially from the initial proposal, it granted the team an unforeseen opportunity to learn and develop skills in project management and design. The client was open-minded and appreciative of the work the team has done and will continue to use the skills gained from their efforts.

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM CONTEXT

The **University of Minnesota** is a public research university located in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. Founded in 1851, it is the oldest and largest campus within the University of Minnesota system and has the sixth-largest main campus student body in the United States, with about 50,000 students 2015–16. Through dynamic, interdisciplinary training in public policy, education, public health, and natural and social sciences, the **Master of Development Practice (MDP)** degree program prepares students for careers in international development, equipping them with the skills needed to address the problems of poverty, social justice, and sustainable development. All MDP students complete an international **Field Experience**, or practicum, in the summer following their first year.